

I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH

Edited by:
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THOMAS TOMPKINS
(1527 - 1656)

Tomkins was born in St David's in Pembrokeshire. His father was also a musician, a vicar choral of the cathedral of St Davids and organist there; his three half-brothers were musicians as well, but none attained the fame of Thomas. In 1596 he was appointed as a choral instructor at Worcester Cathedral. Most likely he studied with William Byrd for a time in London, for he dedicated a madrigal to him as his teacher. While in London he probably met Thomas Morley. Morley included one of Tomkins' madrigals in his important collection *The Triumphs of Oriana* in 1601.

He became a Gentleman Ordinary of the Chapel Royal sometime before 1620, and senior organist there in 1625. He appears to have withdrawn from the post in about 1628. He was employed by Worcester Cathedral for the next two decades, but when the city was captured by parliamentary forces in 1646, during the Civil War, he lost his job, though he was allowed to continue living near the cathedral. Music, to the victorious side, was something to be abolished in all churches (with the exception of the singing of metrical psalms); the Worcester Cathedral organ (which Tomkins had commissioned in 1614) was destroyed and the choir disbanded. Tomkins moved in with his son, and lived with him until his death in 1656.

Treble
I know that my Re - dee - mer liv - eth,

Alto
I know that my Re - dee - mer liv - eth,

Tenor
I know that my Re - dee - mer liv - eth,

Bass
I know that my Re - dee - mer liv - eth,

pars organum

The text for this motet is taken from the Funeral Sentences of the 1549 Book of Common Prayer which quotes Job 19.25 where Job asserts his confidence in God. This scripture is best known through Handel's setting of these words as an Alto aria in *Messiah*.

4

and that I shall rise out of the earth at the last

and that I shall rise out of the earth at the last

8 and that I shall rise out of the earth at the

and that I shall rise out of the earth at the

8

day, and shall be cov-ver'd a-gain with

day, and shall be cov-ver'd a-gain with my skin, with

8 last day, and shall be cov-ver'd a-gain with my skin, a-gain

last day, and shall be cov-ver'd a-gain a-gain with

12

my skin, and shall see God in my flesh, in my flesh, and shall see God
 my skin, and shall see God in my flesh, and shall see God in my
 with my skin, and shall see God in my flesh, and shall see God in my flesh, in
 my skin, and shall see God in my flesh, and shall see God in

12

16

in my flesh: yea, and I my - self shall
 flesh, in my flesh: yea, and I my - self my - self
 my flesh: yea, and I my - self my - self
 my flesh: yea, and I my - self

16

20

be - hold him, not with o - ther but with these same these
 shall be - hold him, not with o - ther but with these
 shall be - hold him, not with o - ther but with these
 shall be - hold him, not with o - ther but with these

20

24

same eyes, not with o - ther but with these same these same eyes.
 same these same eyes, not with o - ther but with these same eyes.
 same eyes, not with o - ther but with these same eyes.
 same eyes, not with o - ther but with these same eyes.

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